

Washington State Grange
P. of H.
Office of the Master

Palouse, Wash., Feb. 15, 1915.

To the Patrons of Washington:

There is now pending in the Legislature, at Olympia, measures and **Amendments**, which, if enacted, will destroy the very life and usefulness of the **Initiative and Referendum**. The amendment to the initiative law provides that all petitions shall be filed with the registration officer (which officer is provided in another bill) and all persons wishing to sign a petition must appear in person before such registration officer, be identified by him and sign the petition in his presence.

The amendment provides further, that no person may solicit any person to sign a petition within 100 feet of the office of any registration office, making it a misdemeanor to carry or solicit any person to sign a petition in violation of this act. This is House Bill No. 120.

A STUDY OF THE PURPOSE OF THE AMENDMENT.

Have you calculated what effect this will have on the securing of names to any petition? No one knows better than the proponents of these amendments, and the Whiskey and Big Business interests back of the whole scheme that it would make it all but impossible to secure the required number of names to any initiative or referendum petition.

THIS THEIR OBJECT.

This dark-lantern plot was conceived in the minds of the Liquor Interests with a view to destroying the efficiency of the Referendum. In 1916 elect a Whiskey controlled legislature, then in 1917 proceed to repeal all temperance laws, and all popular government legislation with a firm belief that it had been made practically certain that there was no danger of the Referendum or the Initiative, if they are able to pull off the pending legislation.

YOUR HOPE.

There is but one hope for the people and that is, the influence you may have with your members of the Legislature and the Governor. Write your members and state clearly that you are opposed to any tampering with the Primary Law, or any amending of the **Initiative and Referendum**, leave them just as they are. Make your letter clear so there can be no misunderstanding your meaning. After having written your member in Senate and House, then write Governor Lister. Ask him to use his veto on any such bill or bills or amendments that come to him during this session.

DELAY DANGEROUS.

There is no time for delay. Those who live near should go or send delegations to Olympia at once, call on the Governor, and make emphatic protest against any such legislation. It has been demonstrated time and time again that a petition in "Boots" will have by far and more lasting effect than all the petitions that could be rolled up. Assure the Governor that the people know what they want, and if he will stand by the people the people will stand by him.

Get your letters in at once and urge all to write. Time is a factor in this great struggle to save what we have in popular government. **Don't delay, do your part at once.**

Fraternally,

C. B. KEGLEY.

I would suggest that a letter or resolution be signed by as many as possible, or adopted by your Grange, or other body, protesting against the adoption, in any form, of H. B. No. 120. Get busy! Don't hesitate to use some of your time and energy in this work.

FRED. W. LEWIS.

